



National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center

# Inside Wallops

Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Virginia

Volume XIX-97 Number 13 May 27, 1997

## *Phase 1 CSOC Awarded*

NASA has selected Boeing North American, Inc., Space Systems Division of Houston, and Lockheed Martin Space Mission Systems and Services, Inc., also of Houston, for award of fixed-price contracts for Phase 1 of the Consolidated Space Operations Contract (CSOC).

Each contract is for \$4 million over a period of eight months, ending January 16, 1998. No other companies submitted proposals.

The Phase 1 study will lead to development of an integrated

operations architecture for NASA space operations. Each contractor will independently develop an architecture.

This is the first step in a planned consolidation of NASA's communications, command and control, and deep space tracking resources.

The intent of this initiative is to achieve cost savings by reducing the management structure and realizing economies possible through private sector competition and innovation.

## *Sounding Rocket and Balloon Launched*

A NASA sounding rocket carrying a plasma physics payload and a scientific balloon carrying a cosmic and heliospheric physics payload were successfully launched recently in New Mexico.

A Black Brant IX sounding rocket carrying a payload to examine Solar extreme ultraviolet irradiance was launched May 16 from the White Sands Missile Range. The payload was recovered.

The principal investigator was Dr. Thomas Woods from the National Center for Atmospheric Research. The project manager was Frank Lau (Code 832). The 39 million cubic foot balloon was launched May 20 from Ft. Sumner. One aspect of this mission was to measure the intensity and spectra of the primary cosmic rays. The payload was recovered.

The principal investigator was Dr. Thomas Parnell from the Marshall Space Flight Center.

## *Space Station New Assembly Schedule*

The International Space Station Control Board has approved a new baseline schedule that keeps the assembly sequence intact and targets the first station launch for June 1998 — an eight-month delay from the previous schedule.

As announced by NASA in April, the revision in the station's assembly schedule is the direct result of funding delays in the construction of the Service Module, the primary Russian contribution to the early assembly of the station and a component that will supply the early living quarters, life support systems and propulsion. Russian-funded work on the Service Module now has fully resumed as a result of Russian government funding, and it is rapidly progressing.

## *Unique Airport Research Conducted*

Over 100 participants from 10 different countries attended the fourth annual NASA Tire/Runway Friction Workshop which was held recently at Wallops. This year marked the first time representatives from the Czechoslovakia Republic have attended.

During the workshop, which lasted a week, 18 technical presentations were made and over 1000 friction test runs were conducted with 12 different ground vehicles on 21 runway and taxiway test surfaces. The NASA Langley Research Center diagonal-braked vehicle participated in these tests. In addition to the friction tests, over 500 surface texture and roughness measurements were collected using 11 devices.

The Skidabrader shot peening machine, used to modify the Shuttle

Landing Facility runway at Kennedy Space Center, demonstrated its ability to remove touchdown area rubber deposits. The Skidabrader also installed a new test surface on the concrete section of runway 04/22.

During the week, an American Society for Testing & Materials task group met to discuss further development of an International Runway Friction Index for harmonizing ground vehicle friction measurements.

Several support elements from Wallops contributed to the success of this year's workshop and tests. The Langley Research Center senior test engineer was Tom Yager and the Wallops Flight Facility test coordinator was Joan Selby, Computer Sciences Corporation.



## *On-line Photo Database Released*

A new on-line collection of NASA photographs and images provides a single point of entry to various photographic databases of six NASA centers. The NASA Image Exchange (NIX) at "<http://nix.nasa.gov>" provides an umbrella over existing photo databases at the centers, providing better access to photos for NASA personnel and the general public.

**Upcoming WEMA  
Events.....**

**70's Night**

June 6  
DJ & Refreshments  
Bldg. F-3, 8 p.m.  
\$5 per person  
Dave Smith x1316  
Bob Tittle x1244

**Steak/Shrimp Dinner**

June 14  
Bldg. F-3, 6 p.m.  
\$15 per person  
(Advance Ticket Sales Only)  
Terry Ewell x113,  
Charlotte Williams x1483

**Blood Drive**

June 17  
8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.  
Contact Linda Layton - x1561

*Have a heart ..... give a little!*

**Wallops Golf League**

Tuesday Evenings  
Winter Quarters  
Call Mark Cording, x1310  
for information



**Wear Your Seat Belt**

An Executive Order to increase seat belt use in the United States, including the use of seat belts in government vehicles, was issued April 16, 1997.

The order states, "Each Federal employee occupying any seating position of a motor vehicle on official business, whose seat is equipped with a seat belt, shall have the seat belt properly fastened at all times when the vehicle is in motion."

In addition, "Each operator and passenger occupying any seating position of a motor vehicle in a national park area or on a Defense installation, whose seat is equipped with a seat belt or child restraint system, shall have the seat belt or child restraint system properly fastened, as required by law, at all times when the vehicle is in motion."



*Robert Nock (Code 821) (right) discusses the requirements of the electronics merit badge with Boy Scouts attending the 1997 Spring Camporee of the Virginia District of the Del-Mar-Va Council.*

*Approximately 60 Boy Scouts spent May 17 at the Wallops Flight Facility working on their electronics, emergency preparedness, aviation, space exploration and computers merit badges. In addition, 60 Cub Scouts participated in a Space Derby in the gym. Other activities during the day included a tour of F-10 and a model rocket demonstration by the Visitor Center staff.*

*Thanks goes to everyone who helped organize and participated in the event.*

**What's New at the Exchange**

In addition to discount tickets to Busch Gardens, Water Country USA, and Kings Dominion, the Exchange now has general admission tickets for the Delmarva Shorebirds games played at Perdue Stadium.

The Exchange is located in the front of the cafeteria and is open 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. For further information call Karen x2020.

**Savings Bond  
Campaign**

**May 27 - June 6**

**For more information or  
forms call x1245.**

*Inside Wallops* is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584 or 1579, in the interest of Wallops employees

Editor	Keith Koehler
Assistant Editor	Betty Flowers
Photography	Optical Section
Printing	Printing Management Office